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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/019,484 | 02/28/2002 | Oh-Young Kim | 2818-101 | 5671 |

6449 7590 06/09/2004

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| EXAMINER |
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GIBSON, ERIC M

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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3661

DATE MAILED: 06/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Applicati n N .

10/019,484

Applicant(s)

KIM, OH-YOUNG

Examiner

Eric M Gibson

Art Unit

3661

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 May 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-67 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-57 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 58-60 and 67 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 61-66 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

1. Claims 58-60 and 67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Palalau et al. (US006373472B1).

a. As per claim 58, Palalau teaches an integrated digital control method for an automotive electrical device including logically dividing a plurality of portions of the vehicle into predetermined regions (claim 1, lines 5-8), digitally controlling input/output data of the divided regions (claim 1, lines 11-12), and performing integrated control of the data of a corresponding region (claim 1, lines 17-18).

b. As per claim 59, Palalau teaches a predetermined switch input is transmitted to all divided regions (column 3, lines 35-40).

c. As per claim 60, Palalau teaches that the input/output includes control routines included identically in each logic division (column 6, line 64 – column 7, line 6).

d. As per claim 67, Palalau teaches in the above-cited column 6, line 64 – column 7, line 6 that the CPU 120 intelligently processes the control routine.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-57 are allowed.

a. As per claims 1-57, reasons for indicating allowable subject matter were given in a prior Office Action mailed on 2/2/2004.

Art Unit: 3661

3. Claims 61-66 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

a. As per claim 61, the prior art does not teach or reasonably suggest in combination the method including that the plurality of control routines includes the detection of malfunctions in the electrical device and control of the detected malfunctions as claimed.

b. Claims 62-66 would serve to further define the invention of claim 61 over the prior art.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 5/3/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

a. The broadest reasonable interpretation of claim 58 would have the logically divided portions of the vehicle into predetermined regions read onto the division of functions disclosed in the Palalau reference as applied. There is no limitation in the claim that specifies that the regions or portions are in any way ***physical divisions*** of the vehicle. The specification discloses this kind of division of the vehicle, however, limitations will not be read into the claims from the specification. Therefore, it is asserted that the broad language of claim 58 encompasses the kind of division being performed in the Palalau reference.

b. Furthermore, while the Applicant asserts in the reply filed 5/3/2004 that the Palalau reference fails to teach “digitally controlling” and “performing integrated control” but does not specify patentably in what way the teaching of the reference fails to teach these limitations as applied in the rejection or what patentably distinguishes them from the reference. Adjusting the values of the features associated with the feature group is “digitally controlling” and likewise implementing the adjusted values through control circuitry is “performing integrated control” of the feature group.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

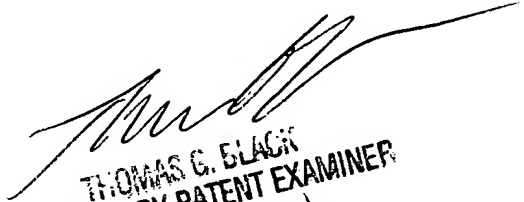
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric M Gibson whose telephone number is (703) 306-4545. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

Art Unit: 3661

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Black can be reached on (703) 305-8233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

EMG


THOMAS G. BLACK
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